

July 22, 2008

## Delegation of Authority, Lindbergh Lake Fire

We welcome you and your Team to the Lindbergh Lake Fire and wish you a safe and successful assignment.

We hereby delegate authority for the management of the Lindbergh Lake Wildland Fire incident to you as Incident Commander. This fire is burning on lands under the jurisdiction of the Flathead National Forest (FNF) and the protection responsibility of the Northwest Land Office, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC). The fire is burning in Missoula County and adjacent to the eastern edge of the Mission Mountain Wilderness (see attached map). Missoula County has responsibility for public safety and structural fire protection on private property and should be represented in the incident management organization, and included in strategic planning, and tactical activities as appropriate. It is paramount that close coordination with the State of Montana, Department of Natural Resources and the Flathead National Forest, and your Incident Management Team be established immediately to ensure a safe transfer of command. Additionally, we expect you to maintain close working relationships with the local law enforcement and Missoula County in their continued involvement in this complex incident.

You will assume command of the incident from the current IC, Aaron King, at 0800 on Tuesday, July 22, 2008. Dan Roberson (DNRC) and Steve Brady (FNF), or their designated representatives, will be available for daily review of the WFSA. Your cost limitation for this incident is \$300,000.00. If during review and implementation of the selected alternative it appears the costs will exceed this amount, we will revisit the WFSA and cost limitation and will revise either or both and submit the revision(s) for approval by the Swan Lake District Ranger, Steve Brady and DNRC Line Officer, Dan Roberson.

Alan Branine is the designated DNRC representative for Dan Roberson and Brad Gillespie will serve as Steve Brady's representative in Steve's absence.

The principal objectives to be accomplished through your management of the Lindbergh Lake Fire include:

1. Firefighter and public safety is the highest priority for you and everyone on or working for your incident management team. All aspects of your operation should include a safety analysis that identifies and evaluates each action for every operational period. This safety analysis must be documented for each operational period. Use of the ICS-215A or similar is acceptable. Please include the following operational elements and their associated safety factors in your analysis and mitigation planning; the development of tactics commensurate with available resources, contingency planning for anticipated as well as unanticipated fire growth and changing conditions and the need to rapidly adjust tactics accordingly (even if that means disengagement), management steps to avoid or minimize fatigue, assuring that the span-of-control is appropriate to the assignment, ensuring that general and assignment specific safety briefings occur prior to engagement and as conditions or assignments change throughout the operational period, monitoring and ensuring personnel well being and care, providing timely and accurate information exchange, etc. The DNRC and Flathead National Forest expect that the Ten Standard Orders will be adhered to by every firefighter, without compromise, and that the Eighteen Watch-Out Situations will be continually evaluated and mitigated before any action is undertaken in the fire environment. If you cannot mitigate a tactical hazard don't implement the corresponding tactical action.
2. We expect you and your team to implement a suppression strategy that utilizes direct attack to keep fire spread to the east of the Mission Mtn. Wilderness Boundary, to the south of Forest Road 79, west of the unnamed ridge approximately 1 mile east of the fire origin, and north of Lindbergh Lake. Pursue weather, natural barrier, and terrain opportunities to safely establish containment and control lines within the boundaries of the WFSAs Selected Alternative, and minimize the suppression-related impacts to protect the commercial timberland, and other natural resources and improvements that are present within the fire area. In the event that this strategy cannot be achieved within the acreage contained within the WFSAs selected alternative or cost limitation, we will review and revise as appropriate; in coordination with your team, the selected alternative and the associated suppression strategy. The WFSAs Selected Alternative identifies the rationale for the appropriate suppression management response specific to this incident. All questions concerning potential natural and cultural resource impacts related to your strategic or tactical operations will be handled through assigned Agency Representative and other assigned Resource Advisors.

3. Work-rest guidelines for wildland firefighters must be adhered to. The incident commander and the command and general staff will be personally involved in planning, implementing, and monitoring compliance to provide a 2-for-1 work-to-rest ratio. Monitor cumulative fatigue, ensure all assigned firefighting personnel receive adequate rest, and any operational period in excess of 16 hours requires documentation along with measures initiated to reduce fatigue.
4. Where opportunity and safety allow, direct attack the fire edge utilizing the appropriate tactics to minimize fire spread. Night operations need to be justified relative to the values at risk and fully mitigated to insure fire fighter safety. Do not drop retardant within 300 feet of streams or standing water, unless there is a threat to firefighter and/or public safety.
5. John Ingebretson is designated to represent the FNF as resource advisor to your Team. The resource advisor and any technical specialists representing the FNF should be included in your Team's operational planning and decision-making activities as well as provided unrestricted, but coordinated access to the fireline and incident facilities. Their recommendations will be based on valid land management direction and biological evaluations and should be applied or mitigated in each case.
6. Establish and monitor cost effective methods of accomplishing objectives. Keep cost effectiveness as an important part of your decision-making process but do not compromise public, firefighter or aviation safety.
7. The use of MIST tactics is recommended for all suppression operations and required for any suppression operations within the Mission Mtn. Wilderness. Requests to land helicopters and/or the use of mechanized equipment in the Wilderness must be approved in advance by the Forest Supervisor or their designated representative. No mechanized equipment or ground disturbing equipment will be allowed in the Wilderness without Flathead National Forest approval.
8. Critical grizzly bear habitat and use areas exist in the fire area. All incident activities must consider the presence of bears and minimizing conflicts resulting from human activities. A special food storage order, attached, is in effect for the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem. The directions of that order must be followed to ensure all food and garbage is properly stored and handled. You will make available to all incident personnel information regarding procedures for firefighters in grizzly bear habitat, available from the resource advisor.
9. Property and equipment accountability standards must be followed according to State policy for DNRC's protection. The loss tolerance ratio that you are directed to achieve for accountable property is no more than 6%. You are also expected to track miscellaneous fire equipment to ensure that items delivered to drop points or locations on the fire line are accounted for and not misplaced or lost. You are expected to track property loaned to cooperators and recover the property when the cooperator is demobilized from the incident.

10. Utilize the Interagency Incident Business Management Guide to assist with business management decisions. For clarification or interpretation of any items contact Karen Goode serving as the finance section chief with your Type III Team.
11. Your Team, in coordination with the Swan Unit of the DNRC may also be asked to support initial and extended attack with resources as requested and available, recognizing that successful initial attack is the top priority in the Northern Rockies after firefighter and public safety.
12. Personnel assigned to this incident must be sensitive to local residents by respecting individuals, private property and public interests. Your Team should utilize local services, vendors and contractors to support incident requirements to the maximum extent possible.
13. Precautions must be taken to prevent the introduction and subsequent spread of noxious weeds. This includes the pre-treatment and post-treatment of vehicles and helicopters utilized to support the incident.
14. Media relations and public information management may be provided on-scene, but coordination with the DNRC and FNF, should occur through regular contact by your Team with Cindy Super Information Specialist, DNRC and Denise Germann FNF Public Information Officer.
15. The FNF and DNRC, encourage you to provide training opportunities to personnel assigned or available to this incident to assist in maintaining a well-qualified fire management workforce.
16. Rehabilitate fire suppression related damages in a timely manner. Resource advisors from the protection/jurisdictional Agency(s) will be available to assist with this planning.
17. The final fire package should follow the attached Northern Rockies Coordinating Group standard format (attached) and be demonstrated as meeting the standard to the agencies before close-out. Any items that are missing or incomplete should be listed on a separate document.
18. There will be a need to monitor the operational and logistical trigger points that would make it necessary to order a Type II Incident Management Team (IMT). The following evaluation points will be used to determine if ordering a Type II IMT is necessary.
  - Logistics: over 150 people assigned to the incident or diminished capabilities to provide the needed logistical support to meet the needs of assigned personnel (food, supplies, equipment).
  - Operations/Containment:
    - Less than 50% containment by the end of the operational period on 7/23/2008.
    - Less than 75% containment by the end of the operational period on 7/24/2008.
    - Failure to achieve full containment by the end of the operational period on 7/25/2008.

- Fire exceeds acreage limitation for the selected WFSA alternative.
- If the aviation operation exceeds the IMT's span of control.
- Complexity analysis suggests the need for a Type II IMT.

Again, welcome and be safe.

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Steve Brady  
Swan Lake District Ranger,  
Flathead National Forest

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Dave Poukish  
Incident Commander,

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Dan Roberson  
Swan Unit Manager  
Montana DNRC